



CDL SKILLS TEST - AUTOMATIC FAILURES



Documents:

Failure to provide the examiner with proper insurance, registration, and license documents or medical examiner's certification (or waiver) will result in an automatic skills tests failure.

Disregarding Instructions or Refusal to Perform a Maneuver:

- **Repeated failure to follow instructions:** If an applicant fails to follow an examiner's instructions, the examiner will give the applicant a verbal warning and ask the applicant to repeat the exercise. If the applicant fails to follow the same instructions twice, it will result in an automatic skills tests failure. "Failure to follow instructions" should not be confused with "failure to understand instructions". If an applicant simply fails to understand instructions, the examiner will read the instructions again to the applicant without penalty.
- **Refusal to perform any maneuver in good faith:** If an applicant refuses to perform any maneuver in good faith (purposely avoids performing the maneuver as instructed), it will result in an automatic failure.

Offer of Bribe or Gratuity:

- If an applicant offers the examiner a bribe or gratuity, the CDL skills test must be terminated at once. The incident must be reported to MDOS immediately.

Air Brake Check:

- Failure to **correctly** perform at least one of the three components of the air brake check.

Equipment:

- The following general items must be in safe, operable condition or it will result in an automatic equipment failure. Please refer to the CVSA North American Out-of-Service Criteria, FMCSR's or the Michigan State Police School Bus Inspection Manual for more details:

Horn	Fuel System (leaks)	Suspension parts (broken, loose, missing)
Mirrors	Safety Equipment	Coupling parts (broken, loose, missing)
Windshield	Wheels	Steering parts (broken loose, missing)
Wipers/Washers	Tires	Brake System defects (air or hydraulic)
Speedometer	Lugs (broken, loose, missing)	Doors (driver/passenger doors must operate)
Safety belts	Frame (cracked, broken)	Lights (head, tail, brake, 4-ways, turn signals)

Refusal to Wear Safety Belt:

- Unless an applicant has a physician's statement or waiver, s/he must wear a safety belt at all times. Applicant cannot exit vehicle without permission of the examiner. Refusal to do so will result in an automatic failure.

Accident: Any accident is grounds for immediate failure.

Traffic violation or hazardous situations including (but not limited to):

Dangerous action in which:

- Others prevent accident.
- Examiner prevents accident or illegal action (IE running a red light).
- Driver drives over curb or sidewalk **and** endangers others.

- Driver creates serious hazard for other traffic.

Traffic violation where the driver:

- Fails to yield (adversely affecting traffic/pedestrian).
- Fails to yield right-of-way to a funeral procession.
- Passes school bus with red lights flashing.
- After one warning, fails to move over one lane, stop, or slow significantly for an emergency vehicle with active flashing lights on the side of the road.
- Makes turn from wrong lane.
- Turns right or left on red when prohibited.
- Passes improperly.
- Drives the wrong way on a one-way street.
- Drives on the wrong side of the street
- Runs red light or stop sign.
- Disregards railroad signal.
- Maintains sustained speeds **(1-5) mph** over the regulatory limit (white regulatory sign), or “basic speed limit” (reasonable and prudent) **after one warning**.
- Maintains sustained speeds **(6) mph** or more over the regulatory limit (white regulatory sign), or “basic speed limit” (reasonable and prudent) with **no warning necessary**.
- Follows another vehicle too closely (**after one warning**).
- Fails to stop at **any** railroad crossing (unless tracks are exempt or light-controlled) in school bus.
- Activating stop-arm and red flashing lights in a school bus at RRX.

Driver is dangerously inexperienced:

Examiners may terminate a test if the driver exhibits behaviors and judgments that indicate s/he is dangerously inexperienced and pose a legitimate safety risk. Examiners must always record objective, descriptive comments on the score sheet when terminating a test under this situation. Examples of dangerously inexperienced include:

- **Maintains sustained speeds under 45 mph on the expressway** unless traffic or weather conditions warrant such behavior.
- **Maintains sustained speeds more than 10 mph under the regulatory speed limit** (after one warning) unless traffic or weather conditions warrant such behavior.
- Unable to adequately shift manual transmission causing unsafe situation such as repeatedly stalling vehicle or stopping in roadway to place in gear.
- Operates vehicle unsafely causing dangerous action/obstruction of traffic.
- Loses control of the vehicle, resulting in the examiner assuming control.

School Bus Only:

- Driver fails to demonstrate activating the alternately flashing lights at least 200 feet from designated stop during simulated student stop exercise.
- Driver fails to demonstrate applying the parking brake and placing the gear selector into neutral or park during simulated student stop exercise.

Note: Examiners must record any **driver performance** automatic failure boxes in the Automatic Failures section that best describe the failure. Next, examiners must mark the test segment failed (Vehicle Inspection, Basic Control Skills or Driving Test) in the Skills Test Results section. **Do not record a raw score for any test segment failed automatically.**

Document and equipment failures are considered **non-driver performance** failures. **These must be marked in the Reason for Incomplete Test section only.**

Examiners must always thoroughly explain the reason(s) for any automatic failure in the Comments section of the score sheet.